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P. 1

JUN 28 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 10/646,950

Customer No. 23379

Applicant: Jasper D. Rine

Confirmation No. 2061

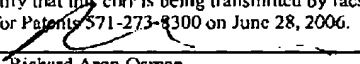
Filed: Aug 21, 2003

Group Art Unit: 1652

Docket No. B96-021-6

Examiner: Ramirez, Delia M.

Title: *AFC1 and RCE1: Isoprenylated CAAX Processing Enzymes*

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION
I hereby certify that this copy is being transmitted by facsimile to the Comm for Patents 571-273-8300 on June 28, 2006.
Signed 
Richard Aron Osman

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

Thank you for the Communication dated Jun 09, 2006.

Applicants claims are consistent with their election made Apr 01, 2006, which is consistent with the Restriction made Mar 08, 2006. The Restriction grouped claims 1 and 5 in Group I. The Restriction did not limit Group I to any particular aspects of claims 1 and 5, nor did it state that Group I included claims 1 and 5 only to the extent they read on certain subject matter. Accordingly, we properly construed this group to encompass the entirety of the subject matter of original claims 1 and 5. Our Apr 01, 2006 Response only added an additional limitation to claims 1 and 5. We did not change the subject matter – we only further narrowed it. The expression vectors of claims 1 and 5 still comprise a polynucleotide encoding an Afc1 or Rce1 polypeptide. Afc1 and Rce1 encoding polypeptides are known to hybridize to, and can comprise SEQ ID NOS:5 & 6, respectively (i.e. SEQ ID NOS: 5 & 6 are ESTs of human Afc1 and Rce1-encoding polynucleotides, respectively; see, specification, p.17, lines 2-7).

Applicants are entitled to, have paid for, and again request examination of elected Group I claims 1 and 5 as amended by our Response filed Apr 01, 2006. To the extent necessary, please construe this submission as a petition to exam the pending claims in this application.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned with any suggestions for amending the claims or further clarifying any of the foregoing. Please charge any required fees, including extension fees, or credit any overcharges relating to this communication to our Dep. Acct. No.19-0750 (order B96-021-6).

Respectfully submitted,
Science & Technology Law Group



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